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The old brick kiln *by Annamaria Weldon*

A small constellation
of Pink Fairy Orchids
winks in afternoon light

close to the ground, pale stars
against the dark mouth of silent
and cold space. Abandoned

the old kiln interrupts bushland
with its angled redbrick walls, lifts
oracular holes high on its four walls

enigmatic in their new life
as industrial ruins, lapped
by a rising tide of grasses.

Annamaria Weldon's poetry collection *The Roof Milkers* was published in 2008 (Sunline Press). She lived in Africa, England and Central America before working as a journalist in Malta and WA. A strong sense of place informs her essays, reviews, fiction and poetry which have been published in anthologies and journals such as *Island*, *Stylus*, *Five Bells*, *indigo*, *dotdotdash*, *Yellow Moon* and broadcast on ABC Radio National. During her year-long Adaptation Residency at Symbiotica, UWA, where she has been working with naturalist Laurie Smith, Annamaria is keeping a landscape journal of the Yalgorup Wetlands. She has also created and delivered a series of nature writing workshops for diverse regional community groups, from WWF nature reserve management practitioners to primary students, writers with disabilities, survivors of domestic violence and University of the Third Age. Frequently invited as a guest poet, her next readings will be at Subiaco Library on March 29th, Lake Clifton Festival on April 18 and the Stretch Festival, Mandurah, in May.